



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF
FOR RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND ACQUISITION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20310

Webster says:

There is no doubt that you can
Define the word, "phenomenon"
In terms of scientific association
When describing the observation.

So

The meanings of our words are clear
Albeit, it often is not what we want
to hear.

M.G.

*The point was the word was ambiguous
look at meaning # 4! One must
define which meaning applies. Such
ambiguity is not desired in most scientific
statements.*

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AMERICAN LANGUAGE



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phenocryst

1098

n. [*pheno-* + *harbital*], an odorless, white crystalline powder, $C_{12}O_2N_2H_{12}$, used as a sedative and soporific; also called *luminal*.

pheno-cryst (*fē'nō-krist*, *fē'nō-krist*), *n.* [*Fr. phénocryste* < *Gr. phainein*, to show + *krystallos*, crystal], an isolated or conspicuous crystal embedded in porphyritic rock.

phenol (*fē'nōl*, *fē'nōl*, *fē'nōl*), *n.* [*phen-* + *-ol*], 1. a white crystalline compound, C_6H_5OH , produced from coal tar, and used in making explosives, etc.; it is a strong, corrosive poison, and its dilute aqueous solution, commonly called carbolic acid, is used as an antiseptic. 2. any of a group of aromatic hydroxyl derivatives, similar in structure and composition to phenol.

pheno-late (*fē'nō-lāt*), *n.* a salt of carbolic acid (phenol in a dilute aqueous solution); carbolate.

pheno-lic (*fē'nō'lik*, *fē'nō'lik*), *adj.* of, derived from, or containing phenol.

pheno-log-i-cal (*fē'nō-loj'i-k'l*), *adj.* of phenology.

pheno-log-y (*fē'nō-lōj-i*), *n.* [*contr. of phenomenology*], the study of natural phenomena that recur periodically, as migration, blossoming, etc., and of their relation to climate and changes in season.

phenol-phthal-ein, *phenol-phthal-ein* (*fē'nōl-thal'ein*, *fē'nōl-thal'i-in*), *n.* [*phenol* + *phthal-ein*], a white to pale-yellow, crystalline powder, $C_{20}H_{12}O_4$, used as a laxative, in making dyes, and as an acid-base indicator in chemical analysis; it is red in a solution containing a base and colorless in a solution containing an acid.

phenom-e-na (*fē'nōm'e-nā*), *n.* plural of *phenomenon*.

phenom-e-nal (*fē'nōm'e-n'l*), *adj.* 1. of or constituting

technicalities; a somewhat unscrupulous behavior.

phil-an-der (*fī-lan'dēr*), *n.* [*Fr. philos*, loving + *fiction* as a name for a landers; philanderer.

love affairs; make love

phil-an-der-er (*fī-lan'dēr*), *n.* [*Fr. philos*, loving + *fiction* as a name for a landers; philanderer.

phil-an-throp-ic (*fī-lan'throp-ik*), *adj.* of, showing, or charitable; benevolent; gen

SYN.—philanthropic in welfare, especially as show

endowment of institutions

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phenom-e-non (*fē'nōm'e-nōn*), *n.* [*pl. PHENOMENA* (-nā); also, esp. for 3 & 4, *PHENOMENONS* (-nōnz')], [*LL. phaenomenon*; *Gr. phainomenon*, neut. ppr. of *phainesthai*, to appear]. 1. any fact, circumstance, or experience that is apparent to the senses and that can be scientifically described or appraised; as, an eclipse is a *phenomenon* of astronomy. 2. the appearance or observed features of something experienced as distinguished from reality or the thing in itself. 3. anything that is extremely unusual; extraordinary occurrence. 4. [*Colloq.*], a person with some extraordinary quality, aptitude, etc.; prodigy.

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